



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

00000005

APR 13 2000

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

SE-5J

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Letts Industries, Inc.
1111 Bellevue Street
Detroit, MI 48207

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



247620

Attention: Charles E. Letts, Jr., President

RE: Letts Drop Forge Site
2714 W. Jefferson
Detroit, Michigan 48216
General Notice of Potential Liability

Dear Mr. Letts:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has documented the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants into the environment from the above-referenced facility, and is planning to spend public funds to investigate and control these releases. U.S. EPA will take this action pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. §9601 et seq. (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-499, 100 Stat. 1613 (1986) (SARA), unless U.S. EPA determines that such action will be done properly by a responsible party or parties. Responsible parties under CERCLA include the current and former owners and operators of the facility, persons who generated the hazardous substances, and persons who were involved in the transport, treatment, or disposal of the hazardous substances at the facility. Under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, where U.S. EPA uses public funds towards the cleanup of the hazardous substances, responsible parties are liable for all costs associated with the removal or remedial action and all other necessary costs incurred in cleaning up the facility, including investigation, planning, and enforcement costs.

U.S. EPA is currently planning to conduct the following actions at the above-referenced facility:

1. Securing access to the property and providing 24-hour security to the Site;
2. Containing hazardous materials present on the property;

3. Conducting monitoring and sampling activity;
4. Preparing for and disposing of hazardous materials in accordance with U.S. EPA's Off-Site Rule (40 CFR § 300.440);
5. Performing other actions to investigate contamination on the property that U.S. EPA may determine to be necessary; and
6. Taking any response action to address any release or threatened release of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant which U.S. EPA determines may pose an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or the environment.

U.S. EPA has received information that you may have owned or operated the facility or generated or transported hazardous substances that were disposed of at the facility. By this letter, U.S. EPA notifies you of your potential liability with regard to this matter and encourages you, as a potentially responsible party, to agree to reimburse U.S. EPA for costs incurred to date and to voluntarily perform or finance the response activities which U.S. EPA has determined or will determine are required at the facility. U.S. EPA is willing to discuss with you the entry of an appropriate administrative consent order under which you would perform or finance response activities and reimburse U.S. EPA for its costs. If a consent order cannot be promptly concluded, U.S. EPA may issue a unilateral order under Section 106 of CERCLA, requiring you to perform specified work. Under Sections 106 and 107 of CERCLA, you may be liable for reimbursement of U.S. EPA's costs, for statutory penalties, and for treble damages for noncompliance with such an order. If you are a qualified small business, enclosed is an U.S. EPA Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act information sheet which may be helpful if you are subject to an U.S. EPA enforcement action.

Because of the conditions described above, U.S. EPA believes that response activities at the Site must be initiated as quickly as possible. Therefore, U.S. EPA does not intend to utilize the special notice procedures available under Section 122(e) of CERCLA.

As a potentially responsible party, you should notify U.S. EPA in writing **within 5 (five) days of receipt of this letter** of your willingness to perform or finance the activities described above and to reimburse U.S. EPA for its costs. Your response should be sent to:

U.S. EPA - Region 5
Emergency Enforcement & Support Section SE-5J
Attention: Sally Jansen
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

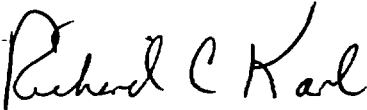
If U.S. EPA does not receive a timely response, U.S. EPA will assume that you do not wish to negotiate a resolution of your potential responsibility in connection with the facility and that you decline any involvement in performing the response activities.

Your response should indicate the appropriate name, address, and telephone number for further contact with you. If you are already involved in discussions with State or local authorities or involved in a lawsuit regarding this facility, you may continue such activities as you see fit. This letter is not intended to advise you or direct you presently to restrict or discontinue any such activities already underway; however, you are advised to report the status of those discussions or actions in your response to this letter and to provide a copy of your response to any other parties involved in those discussions or actions.

If you need further information regarding this letter, you may contact Robert L. Thompson of the U.S. EPA Office of Regional Counsel at (312) 353-6700. His facsimile number is (312) 886-0747.

Due to the nature of the problem at this facility and the attendant legal ramifications, U.S. EPA strongly encourages you to submit a written response within the time frame specified herein. We hope you will give this matter your immediate attention.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard C. Karl". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "K".

Richard C. Karl, Chief
Emergency Response Branch

Enclosure (SBREFA information sheet)



Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
INFORMATION SHEET

U.S. EPA Small Business Resources

If you own a small business, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers a variety of compliance assistance and tools to assist you in complying with federal and State environmental laws. These resources can help you understand your environmental obligations, improve compliance and find cost-effective ways to comply through the use of pollution prevention and other innovative technologies.

EPA Websites

EPA has several Internet sites that provide useful compliance assistance information and materials for small businesses. Many public libraries provide access to the Internet at minimal or no cost.

EPA's Small Business Home Page (<http://www.epa.gov/sbo>) is a good place to start because it links with many other related websites. Other useful websites include:

EPA's Home Page

<http://www.epa.gov>

Small Business Assistance Programs

<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/sbap>

Compliance Assistance Home Page

<http://www.epa.gov/oeca/oc>

Office of Site Remediation Enforcement

<http://www.epa.gov/oeca/osre>

Hotlines, Helplines and Clearinghouses

EPA sponsors approximately 89 free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance on environmental requirements.

EPA's Small Business Ombudsman Hotline can provide a list of all the hot lines and assist in determining the hotline best meeting your needs. Key hotlines include:

EPA's Small Business Ombudsman

(800) 368-5888

Hazardous Waste/Underground Tanks/ Superfund

(800) 424-9346

National Response Center

(to report oil and hazardous substance spills)

(800) 424-8802

Toxics Substances and Asbestos Information

(202) 554-1404

Safe Drinking Water

(800) 426-4791

Stratospheric Ozone and Refrigerants Information

(800) 296-1996

Clean Air Technical Center

(919) 541-0800

Wetlands Hotline

(800) 832-7828

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**LETTS DROP FORGE SITE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

LIST OF PRPS SENT GENERAL NOTICE LETTER ON APRIL 13, 2000

Letts Industries Inc.
Attention: Charles E. Letts, Jr., President
1111 Bellevue Street
Detroit, MI 48207

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DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

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